The second question is in regard to the market-related economy. Naturally, the investment decision will not be taken according to the pre-determined priority by the Government or by the Planning Commission. It will depend upon the market trend. Therefore, the private sector will go wherever it will find it more profitable. To ensure a balanced growth intervention of the State is necessary. That is why, in the major sectors, particularly in providing the physical infrastructure, the State intervention is absolutely called for and we are actually doing so and we will actually do so.

डा० जग नाथ मिश्र : सभापति महोदय, मैं यह जानना चाहूंगा कि क्या यह सच नहीं है कि प्रथम पंचवर्षीय योजना से आज 8वीं पंचवर्षीय योजना तक बिहार समेत इन राज्यों में प्रति व्यक्ति आय और प्रति व्यक्ति केन्द्रीय सहायता सबसे कम है ? इसी वजह से इन राज्यों में आर्थिक संरचना का निर्माण नहीं हो पाया। इसलिये इन कठिनाईयों के कारण यह अतिरिक्त संसाधन इकट्ठे करने में और अपने साधनों से अपना विकास करने में पीछे है । क्या सरकार विचार रखती है कि ऐसे राज्य जिन्हें 1952 से लगातार केन्द्रीय सहायता कम से कम मिली, योजना व्यय सबसे कम हुआ, यह खाई बढ़ती चली गई है और आगे के दिनों में खाई बढ़ती जायेगी तो क्या इस खाई को पाटने के लिये किसी व्यवस्था पर केन्द्रीय सरकार विचार करेगी और इस असमानता को दूर करने का प्रयास करेगी ?

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: Sir, it is a fact that the per-capita Plan outlay varies from State to State, but, as I mentioned, to a considerable extent, it depends also on the State's own efforts at resource mobilisation. So far as the State of Bihar is concerned—my hon. friend will agree with me, because he happened to be the Chief Minister of that State for a number of years—that from the First Plan till the Seventh, only in one Plan period Bihar could reach the Plan target in nominal terms. From the First Plan to the Seventh Plan, only during one Plan period, Bihar could reach the Plan target in nominal term and that was during the period of the Sixth Plan when he happened to be the Chief Minister. Unfortunately, in the First Plan, Second Plan, Third Plan, Fourth Plan, Annual Plan, in every Plan we found that the actual Plan expenditure was below the targeted level. And what happens? The normal practice is from one Plan to another Plan, we double the outlay.

Therefore, if there is a slippage income Plan, it continues and that is a classic case between Maharashtra and West Bengal. When we had started the First Plan, both of them were at par. But when there was slippage particularly from the Fourth Plan period, we found that the gap had started increasing. So, the answer lies in not merely providing Central assistance. Central assistance is being provided on the basis of a formula. As I explained, the formula is highly weighted in favour of the relatively poor States. The infrastructural development is important for and investment climate, all these things are to be created in the States.

Contribution of States/UTs for Exports

*202. SHRI K. M. KHAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any decision has been taken to involve the States and Union Territories to extend their contribution in improving the country's exports;

(b) if so, details thereof and the names of the States and Union Territories which have made their contribution in this field so far;

(c) whether it is fact that with this joint exercise country's exports have increased considerably during 1993-94;

(d) if so, the details thereof in comparison to 1992-93;

(e) whether Government propose to take some action or provide some in-

centives to get contribution of all the States and Union Territories more effectively; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and if not, reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) to (f) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

Regarding Contribution of States/UTs for Exports

(a) Yes, Sir. The State Governments have been requested to set-up separate Export Promotion Cell|Directorate of Export Promotion or separate Division in their Department of Industries to give proper attention to the exports from their respective States. The States|Union Territories have also been requested to draw-upon export policy spelling-out specific incentives and cost effective measures to support export production in the country.

(b) *I. Export Promotion Cells|Directorates in the State Secretariats have been created in the following States:—*

Gujarat, Haryana, Maharashtra, Tamilnadu, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Orissa and Bihar.

II. Export Corporation have been established in the following States:—

Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Kerala, Maharashtra, Orissa, Punjab, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Bihar and Jammu & Kashmir.

III. Boards/Apex Bodies under the Chairmanship of Chief Minister/Chief Secretaries and comprising both official and non-officials have been set-up in following States:—

Haryana, Karnataka, Orissa, Punjab, Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Kerala, Maharashtra, Tamil nadu, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan.

IV. The following States have drawn up their Export policies:—

Uttar Pradesh, Goa, Karnataka, Kerala, Maharshtra, Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh.

V. Incentives such as exemption from power cuts, exemption/refund of local taxes such as Sales Tax, Octroi duty, entry tax purchase tax etc, are being offered in the following States:—

Karnataka, Maharashtra, Tamilnadu, Uttar Prdesh, Rajasthan, Gujarat, Orissa, Madhya Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam and Punjab.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Exports from India during 1993-94 amounted to Rs. 69546.97 Crores as compared to Rs. 53688.26 Crores during 1992-93.

(e) and (f) The Central Government has been and will continue to solicit a positive response and cooperation from State Governments in such a way that increase of exports is perceived as a Joint venture of Centre and States.

In order to encourage the involvement of States a constant interface is maintained with the States|Union Territories through Nodal Officers appointed for this purpose as well as through Seminars etc. where States|UTs are requested to participate.

Some of the intiatives taken by the Centre to solicit State involvement in export promotion are:—

(1) This Ministry has introduced Export Promotion Industrial Parks Scheme (EPIP) which aims at construction of infrastructure of high quality by State Governments and utilisation of such facilities for export oriented units in these Parks.

(2) It has been decided to accord status of Export House to one State Corporation in each State irrespective of the Export performance.

(3) A State Cell has been set-up in this Ministry under an Additional Secretary.

(4) Seminars and Meetings are being organised where States|UTs are invited to participate to discuss ways and means of enhancing exports from respective States|UTs.

(5) Nodal Officers for Export have been appointed in all Central Ministries.

(6) Focal Point Officers with specific Territorial responsibility have been appointed in the Ministry of Commerce to deal with problems of State with respect to Exports.

SHRI K. M. KHAN: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I appreciate the reply given by the hon. Minister to my question., But our experience in Andhra Pradesh with regard to export promotion is that the State Governments have no significant role in promoting the exports despite the fact that the Government has liberalised its economic policy and also eliminated a number of procedures which were earlier required for exports. We find that in certain areas, particularly in agricultural products, there are still bottlenecks. The exporters will have to make rounds to Delhi from their respective places to secure make rounds to Delhi from their respective places to secure APEDA permission and such other formalities. I would like to know from the hon. Minister such of these powers to the State fer such of these powers to the Statt Governments to make the exports, particularly the export of agricultural products, simple to encourage exporters.

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I had given an exhaustive reply on the reponse of the States to the various suggestions which we have made. Perhaps, it would not be correct to come to the conclusion that the States are not ressponding. As I said earlier, in reply to a question about the States resources mobilisation, we find despite the fact that States are having difficulty in resource mobilisation, they have extended a series of tax concessions, not all States, but quite a number of States, to the exporters with regard to local levies.

So far as the export policy is concerned, many of the States have formulated their export policy. In some Statts they have set up a special development cell to foster export under the chairmenship of the Chief Ministers. Therefore, these steps are being taken by the States. But, unfortunately, there was some sort of a misconception that export was the exclusive job of the Centre and States are nothing to do except giving some exemption in sales tax or refunding local duties or providing some infrastructural facilities. In order to provide adequate incentives to the States so that they can also come and make investment in export-oriented units, we are going to start a new scheme, where export-promotion industrial parks, with world class infra-structural facilitits, will be established in each State. In this scheme 75 per cent of the capital expenditure will be borne by the Central Government and 25 per cent and the land will be provided by the States and the States have responded well to this scheme.

In regard to the delegation of authority. I am always prepared to consider any suggestion that may come from the State Governments. We would like to see to what extent we can delegate authority. It would be bttter if the States themselves create one-window clearances for all the areas of environment, power, land and others. Then the exporters could find out whert to go and what type of relief they could get from them. That type of exercise is also being worked out.

SHRI K. M. KHAN: Sir, there was a proposal to establish an Export-Promotion Zone at Visakhapatnam. I would like to know at what stage it is now and when it will start functioning. I would also like to state that the Government has aequired 400 acres of land in Visakhapatnam for establishing this Export-Promotion Zone and the Andhra

Pradesh Industrial Infrastructural Corporation was given the work of developing this EPZ. I would like to know at what stage the work is and when this Zone will be completed. I would also like to know what steps the Government proposes to take to develop the Kakinada Port to accelerate the export promotional activities in Andhra Pradesh.

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: So far as the Export-Processing Zone is concerned, it has already been decided, as the hon. Member is aware and, in fact, the construction work is going on though it has been delayed. The decision was taken during the Sixth Plan period. Some of the Export-Processing Zones have come up very well. Very recently, I had been to NOIDA. It was decided at that time to have an Export-Processing Zone there also. It has also come up very well. But some others like the Falta project in West Bengal and the Visakhapatnam project in Andhra Pradesh are not yet doing well. Surely, they will also come up and I do hope that it will be possible to work them out. In a limited way, it has started operating from 1-6-1993. But the full-fledged development will take some time. We have already spent about Rs. 12 crores on this Zone.

SHRI PRAGADA KOTAIAH: Mr. Chairman, Sir, may I know from the hon. Minister that Several cooperatives which are actually producing exportable products are depending only upon the export houses recognised by the Government. Is there any proposal with the Government to recognise the cooperatives as eligible export houses without insisting upon the minimum performance of business ?

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: Sir, some minimum standard of performance is necessary. Otherwise, everybody will come and nobody will be able to do any business. And there is nothing to prevent a cooperative society or a cooperative organisation from acquiring the status of an export house. If the hon. Member has any specific cooperative organisation in mind which could be supported, surely we car try to help it.

SHRI SANJAY DALMIA: Any business house which exports beyond a certain amount is allowed to retain the foreign exchange for export purposes only. I would like to know two things. One is, will the Government consider giving this facility to the States also because the States have to do a lot of work in promoting exports ? Some of the States have to incur a lot of expenditure also. My question is whether the Government will give the same incentive to the States. Secondly, any expenditure which the States have to incur for promoting exports should be reimbursed by the Centre because the States have given a lot of tax exemption, etc. I would like to know whether the Government will consider reimbursing to the States the expenditure incurred.

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: So far as the question of reimbursement is concerned, it is very difficult because, after all, export merely does not earn foreign exchange; it generates employment. It generates the overall economic activities which help the States to have a higher State Domestic Product. Therefore, it is not merely the question that they are just helping somebody, but they are helping themselves also.

In regard to the question of giving foreign exchange to the Statts to facilitate their activities, this question was debated on the floor of this very House during the last Session and I had said that the foreign exchange had been made fully convertible on trade account and there had been no shortage. I don't think the States find any problem in getting the foreign exchange which they require for any particular work. In respect of retention, we have decided to give, at least, to one State-owned corporation, the status of the export house, so that they can also get the usual facilities including the retention of the part of foreign exchange which they are earning througn export and the state can use that.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Mr. Chairman, Sir, after the introduction of the new ecoonmic policy and especially, the import-export policy by the Government of India, definitely, there is an

uptrend as far as exports in this country are concerned. Sir, a lot of foreign investment is expected here by the Governments of the various countries and also by the companies. But when the question of investment in respect of India arises, they select important cities like Bombay, Madras, Calcutta and Delhi and they do not have sufficient information for going to the other States. The States cannot have direct interaction with those companies and the Governments of other States in the third world. Now, Sir, the trade counsellors in various embassies are doing their job. But, to my mind, it is not sufficient. They are not able to cope with the developing trends in the national economy which now coming up in this country. Therefore, I think that the trade counsellors in various embassies of the third world have to be activated to cope with the present trends. That is not being taken up because the States cannot directly negotiate with the parties and the Governments of the trird-world. I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to what steps he is taking for activising those officers who are attached to the Commerce Ministry in this regard. Secondly, the incentives proposed for the States by the hon. Minister, to compete with each other for promotion of exports, are too minimum. I request that the States have to be given more incentives. Moreover, the incentives which are given to the various investors who are coming into this country are being given from the State funds. A part of the amount is being given by the Central Government for creating the infrastructure. Thereafter, the maintenance and other things are being done by the state concerned.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Sir, since it is a very important question, I may be permitted half a minute more.

MR. CHARIMAN: But, how will he be able to answer?

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Sir, it is a very vital issue because the States are starved of funds. Even to maintain their regular policy programmes, the States are starved of funds. Now, when the export promotion zone was started and when the State Governments have been asked to create a separate department for that, from where will they get the funds? Thirlly, the States are not in a position to give up-to-date information to the exporters in their respective State capitals and the Commerce Ministry information does not reach them quickly. Therefore, Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether they will have a branch office of the Commerce Ministry in important State capitals, I mean, having a Southern Region, a Nortnern Region and an Eastern Region, so that the dissemination of information to the people who are concerned with it and also the licensing process, all these things become easy.

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: Sir, so far as the question of activising our trade officials posted in the various missions is concerned, surely, it would be a constant exercise to keep them updated with the facilities available in different parts of the country, particularly in this area. But it is not correct to say that the State are not taking interest sometimes it happens that various Chief Ministers going abroad, in their anxiety to invite investments to their States, compete with each other by giving concessions. Nowadays, as a large quantum of investment comes from the private sector, the State representatives, including the Chief Ministers, are having direct contact with them. For example, in one of the meetings of the major industrial and economic leaders, held very recently, the Chief Minister of Manarashtra was invited there and talked to them and proposals for attracting a substantial quantum of investments were discussed there. It is not merely in the case of Maharashtra, but many other State Chief Ministers are also going and they can do that. Primarily, the States will have to create a situation in which they can say that these are the advantages which are available to them. A prospective investor would like to go to those areas where infrastructural facilities are readily available. Therefore, infrastructural facilities are to be provided.

As regards the maintenance expenditure, in the case of EPIP (Export Promotion Industrial Parks) which you are going to establish, as I mentioned earlier, 75 per cent of the capital investment will be borne by us, by the Centre, and to maintain the quality of the facilities which are being created there, the levy which is imposed on the beneficiaries will be passed on to the States so that the States do have adequate resources to maintain the facilities which are being created there. That point we have already taken care of.

As regards the dissemination of information—this is a very important point, —we have decided that a company is going to be established very shortly. In fact, the Cabinet has cleared this proposal. The Company constituted by the ITPO and the NIC of the Planning Commission are going to float jointly a company whose job will be to collect information because all the districts are now brought under the computer network through NICNET and all the relevant information connected with trade will be available not only to the State headquarters but also to all the important trading centres in different parts of the country. But it will take some time to build it up. They will start their operations some time in the first week of October.

SHRI SURINDER KUMAR SINGLA: Sir, I want to know...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, I am going to the next question.

*203. (The questioner (Shri Janardan Yadav) was absent. For answer, vide col. 28 infra.)

New sites for coal deposits in Vidarbha region

*204. DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR:†

SHRI V. RAJESHWAR RAO:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) what are the new sites for coal deposits found in the Vidarbha region of Maharashtra;

(b) by when the exploitation of these coal sites will be started;

(c) whether the survey for new sites is still going on; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) Geological Survey of India (GSI) have identified Nand, Bokhara and Makardhokra as new potential coal bearing areas in Vidarbha region of Maharashtra.

(b) Programme for exploitation for these new areas is dependent on factors like completion of detailed exploration, availability of land, techno-economic feasibility of individaul projects, availability of environmental and forestry clearaness and that of financial resources for taking up the individual projects.

(c) and (d) GSI is presently conducting exploration for coal in Jogapur-Ghanpur areas in Wardha Valley coalfield. GSI has also planned regional exploration in Masak-Asthi-Chora areas in Wardha Valley coalfield and in Katol basin in Nagpur district in Vidarbha area of Maharashtra.

DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR: Sir, the hon Minister has given the various factors on which the programme of exploitation would depend. In this list of factors he has not mentioned one of the most important factors and that is immediate proximity to densely populated areas. Sir, Bokhara and Makardhokra have been identified as potential sites. This Bokhara is technically just adjoining the Municipal Corporation limits of Nagpur City, and in practical terms, the octroi post of Nagpur on the Nagpur Saoner Road has gone beyond the Bokhara village. So, all the

*The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Dr. Shrikant Ramchandra Jichkar.